

PHILADELPHIA (Pa.)

INQUIRER Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RD

Circ.: m. 619,054

S. 1,129,576

Front Edit Other
Page Page Page

19

Date OCT 1 0 1958

CPYRGHT

FOIAb3b

Paul

Ghali

PARIS.

THE SOVIETS have pulled off a number of coups in the last few weeks in their merciless struggle to eliminate from Eastern Europe all refugees in a position to act as "informers" for the West. Rumanians here report.

Among other "successes," they have avenged themselves for one of the heaviest blows in modern history against the Red espionage system in Western Europe. They have assassinated Oliver Beldeanu, leader of the young Rumanian patriots who raided their Bern legation in February, 1954, and made away with incriminating documents, including lists of Soviet agents.

Rumanian refugee circles here have only just received word of Beldeanu's kidnapping and assassination. The full story will be known only after the investigation, now being conducted in Berlin by Western police, is completed. But here is Beldeanu's story as told to me.

The 34-year-old Rumanian, tried by the Swiss Federal Court in Bern in June, 1955, and condemned to a short term of imprisonment, was expelled from Switzerland upon completion of his term early this year.

He moved to Munich, where he got a job as a night porter and watchman at the Hotel Daniel.

According to his friends here, Beldeanu, who had been a victim of Soviet torture in Rumania before his escape to the Free World, was carrying on a one-man fight against the Soviets from Munich. Both French and American CIA agents had refused to have any dealings with him, arguing that he had become too well known.

But Beldeanu refused to give up. Presumably with the idea that Berlin was where the Soviets were most vulnerable, he applied for a job in the Western sector of that former German capital.

CPYRGHT

Some time in August he received offers from two West Berlin firms accompanied by a request that he come over for a personal interview.

Beldeanu flew to West Berlin Aug. 31. At the airfield he was met by a car supposedly sent by one of the firms that had offered a job.

Unsuspectingly, Beldeanu stepped into the car. It headed east instead of taking the road to the Western sector.

It was only when the car had passed the Western sentries that Beldeanu realized he had been duped. He shouted to the driver to turn back and shot him when he refused. Then he jumped out and was immediately surrounded by East German police and Soviet MVD agents.

He killed one in the ensuing struggle but was shot down by machine-gun fire.

In Istanbul, Prof. Defey, who represented in Turkey the Rumanians-in-exile newspaper, La Nation Roumaine, was mysteriously kidnaped a fortnight ago.

In Vienna, one Pier Trojan who during the war had been very close to Rumanian Nazi leader Horia Sima, disappeared and was last seen being taken into Slovakia.

Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP75-00149R000100330006-2